

2023 NEBRASKA ELDER JUSTICE TRAINING

Co-sponsored by:

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, State Unit on Aging, AARP Nebraska, University of Nebraska-Omaha Department of Gerontology, Better Business Bureau, Alzheimer's Association Nebraska Chapter, and Legal Aid of Nebraska

Live via web streaming to multiple locations statewide

Registration opens July 5th

Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CDT)
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (MDT)

Place: **Live, in person** at Nebraska Public Media (1800 N 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE 68503) or Streamed live to seven remote host sites across Nebraska or attend via personal computer.

Cost: Free!

Topics:

- Elder Abuse, Fraud, and Scams
- Decision-Making Capacity
- Banking with Aging Adults
- Supported Decision-Making
- Homelessness in the Aging Population
- Housing Issues



AGENDA

CDT

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions Julie Masters, PhD, Terry Haney Chair of Gerontology, University of Nebraska-Omaha
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Homelessness in the Aging Population Tina Murray, Senior Director of Crisis Management, and Gerry Ford, Access and Housing Engagement Manager, Together Inc.
9:45 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.	Bank Applications Scams and Fraud Josh Planos, Vice President of Communications & Public Relations, Better Business Bureau
10:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	Break
10:35 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Can this Person Decide? Evaluating Decision-Making Capacity Karina Bishop, MD, CMD, University of Nebraska Medical Center
11:20 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.	How to Bank with Older Adults Claire McHenry, Deputy Director, Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance, and Antonia Bonsera, Adult Protective Services
12:05 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:05 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	Veterans' Affairs Case Study Cindy Koenig-Warnke, Investigator, Technical Investigations Department, Lincoln Police Department
1:50 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Supported Decision Making in Nebraska Jonathan Martinis, Senior Director for Law and Policy, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, and Bradley Meurrens, Public Policy Director, Disability Rights Nebraska
2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Attorney General's Office Overview Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers
3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Housing/Tenant-Landlord and Home Equity Scott Mertz, Legal Aid of Nebraska
4:30 p.m.	Wrap-up and Adjourn

FACULTY

Karina Bishop, MD, CMD, is an Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Division of Geriatrics, Gerontology, and Palliative Medicine. Dr. Bishop is a geriatrician originally from Panama, where she completed medical school. After medical school, she attended Creighton University to complete a family medicine residency and joined the University of Nebraska Medical Center for her geriatric fellowship. She practices geriatric primary care at Nebraska Medicine and is a certified medical director for Douglas County Health Center. She also provides care for patients in long-term care facilities, performs home visits, and assists Adult Protective Services in assessments of frail older adults. She is fluent in Spanish and is passionate about educating healthcare workers about geriatric principles and improving awareness of dementia, particularly among Hispanics.

Antonia "Toni" Bonsera is a Program Specialist with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children and Families. Toni's responsibilities are broad, generally involving developing and implementing policy, work instructions, and public guidance and focusing on safety for children and vulnerable adults. Providing technical support and training to field staff and educational presentations regarding Adult Protective Services mandatory reporting requirements and assessment processes are some of the duties that Toni truly enjoys. A native of Pennsylvania, Toni joined Nebraska DHHS in 2005.

Gerry Ford is the Access and Housing Engagement Manager at Together, Inc. Mr. Ford oversees and supports an amazing team that works with individuals experiencing homelessness at Together's Short-Term Emergency Housing Program. Through intensive case management, they work with their

residents to identify and overcome barriers keeping them from obtaining permanent housing. His experience includes providing client-focused case management, assisting in building and implementing programs, and supporting and motivating his peers and those who report to him. His goal is to be a voice and advocate for people who are experiencing homelessness. The way that people view poverty and homelessness needs to change, and he wants to be part of re-framing it.

Nebraskans elected **Mike Hilgers** to be their 33rd Attorney General in 2022. As Attorney General, Mike works to keep Nebraskans and their families safe, protect their rights, ensure the integrity of our constitutional structure, help our law enforcement officials around the state, and protect our natural resources, including our water supplies. Before taking office, Mike was an experienced private practice attorney, successful entrepreneur, and legislator. Mike was in private practice for over fifteen years, handling complex litigation and discovery disputes in state and federal court. After practicing at a large law firm, Mike founded his own litigation law firm. Mike built that firm from nothing into one of the fastest-growing practices in the country. Before leaving his practice to take office as Nebraska's Attorney General, the firm had over 100 professionals and handled cases nationwide. Mike started his private practice after clerking for Judge Edith Clement on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Mike graduated from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was an editor of the law review. Before taking office as Attorney General, Mike spent six years serving the people of Northwest Lincoln and Lancaster County in the Legislature (District 21), serving his last two as the Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature. In the Legislature, Mike introduced and passed a wide variety of legislation to help Nebraskans around the state, from legislation to protect constitutional rights, to protecting our water, to supporting law enforcement. Mike and his wife, Heather, are raising their four children, Alice, Elsie, Clara Jane, and Michael Jr. They are raising their family in Lincoln.

Cindy Koenig-Warnke is a 25-year veteran of the Lincoln Police Department. She is currently an Investigator in the Technical Investigations Unit. She investigates financial crimes, including financial exploitation of senior and vulnerable adults. She is also a certified Crime Scene Investigator and co-leads the Lincoln Police Department Crime Scene Investigative Unit. She received her Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of South Dakota, her Master's Degree in Social Gerontology from the University of Nebraska Omaha, and a Certificate in Long Term Care Administration from Southeast Community College. She is a Nebraska Supreme Court Commission on Guardianships and Conservatorships member.

Jonathan Martinis, Esq., J.D., is the Senior Director for Law and Policy at the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University. He is based at BBI's Washington, D.C. office and leads the institute's national and international efforts. Martinis has over 20 years of experience representing and advocating for people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act. He served as lead counsel in *Brinn v. Tidewater Transportation District Commission*, the first case to hold that people with disabilities have a right to paratransit transportation on a next-day basis. He was also lead counsel in *Winborne v. Virginia Lottery*, in which the court held that the Lottery must ensure that all private businesses selling Lottery tickets are accessible to people with disabilities. Most notably, in 2013, Martinis represented Jenny Hatch in the nationally acclaimed "Justice for Jenny" case. Martinis helped Ms. Hatch secure her right to live where and how she wants, make her own decisions, and direct her life. Jenny's case was the first trial to hold that a person with disabilities has a right to engage in "Supported-Decision Making," where people work with trusted friends, family members, and professionals to help them understand the situations and choices they face so that they may make their own decisions – rather than be subjected to an unnecessary permanent, plenary or full guardianship.

Claire McHenry is the Deputy Director – Securities Bureau with the Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance. Ms. McHenry has over fifteen years of state securities regulation experience and is an active North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) member. She earned her Bachelor of Science and Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis and her Juris Doctorate from American University – Washington College of Law.

Scott Mertz is the Managing Attorney of Legal Aid of Nebraska's Omaha office and Director of the firm's Housing Justice Project. A 2009 Creighton School of Law graduate, Scott Mertz has worked at Legal Aid of Nebraska since graduation. The Housing Justice Project encompasses all housing work done at Legal Aid of Nebraska. The project seeks to ensure that all low-income Nebraskans have access to an attorney for their housing legal issues.

Bradley Meurrens is the Public Policy Director at Disability Rights Nebraska. Brad holds a Bachelor's degree in Latin from the University of Nebraska and a Master's in Public Administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. After a short time working as a policy consultant in McLean, Virginia, Brad returned home to Nebraska, where he has worked in public policy and as the primary registered lobbyist for Disability Rights Nebraska since December 2001.

Tina Murray is the Senior Director of Crisis Engagement at Together, Inc. She leads their Crisis Engagement Specialists team working diligently to help the homeless and families/individuals at imminent risk of homelessness. They help families and individuals with direct assistance programs to help stabilize their housing crisis. Prevention, Diversion, Rapid Exit, and Street Outreach are some of the main services they provide. Together, along with Front Porch has created a non-congregate shelter to house folks experiencing homelessness in the community and provide case management to help stabilize their households. Her comprehensive background includes developing and overseeing evidence-based case management services for homeless individuals and families, which include supported services and connection to shelter plus care housing and permanent supportive housing programs. Her main goal is to change the narrative around homelessness, reject the stigma of poverty, and help families and/or individuals obtain or remain in safe and affordable housing. Everyone deserves a home.

Josh Planos, APR, is the Vice President of Communications & Public Relations for the Better Business Bureau and a freelance writer for publications including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Washington Post. He is a frequent contributor to CNN Philippines and was recognized among Midlands Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Class in 2022. Josh serves as the spokesperson of the BBB's International Investigations Initiative and oversees and executes all external and internal communication efforts.

The ElderAccessLine at Legal Aid of Nebraska is available to help Nebraska Seniors with their legal issues:



ElderAccessLine® (Age 60+): 1-800-527-7249

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Fridays: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

REGISTRATION FORM

2023 Nebraska Elder Justice Training
Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Please check one:

- ☐ I will attend this training via web-based live streaming at the location checked below
- ☐ I will attend this training via web-based live streaming using my personal/work computer. Log-in details will be sent prior to the training to registered participants and posted at: <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/agingtraining>

Please complete a separate form for each individual attending and send it in no later than August 3rd.

Name (Please print clearly):	
Organization:	
Mailing Address (Street, city, state & zip):	
Day phone:	
Email (Required, print clearly):	
Bar Number (required if applying for CLEs)	

- ☐ Yes, I would like Continuing Education Hours
Continuing Education Contact hours awarded by Iowa Western Community College, Iowa Board of Nursing Provider #6. This program is eligible for 6.8 Contact Hours. Nursing Continuing Education Contact hours are typically accepted for other disciplines such as social work and nursing home administrator; professionals of assorted disciplines – verify with your certification board.
- ☐ Yes, I would like Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits
This training has been approved for 6.5 hours of CLE credit in Nebraska. The regular learning Activity ID is 249136 and the distance learning activity number is 249139. Please direct questions related to CLE to the MCLE Commission. Legal Aid of Nebraska certifies that this activity has been approved for CLE credit in Nebraska.

Live streaming will be available at the following locations:

- Beatrice: Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging, 103 Eastside Boulevard
- Hastings: Midland Area Agency on Aging, 2727 W 2nd Street, Suite 440
- Kearney: South Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, 620 East 25th Street, #12
- **Lincoln: Nebraska Public Media, 1800 N 33rd Street**
- Omaha: Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, 4780 South 131st Street
- Norfolk: Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, 119 West Norfolk Avenue
- North Platte: West Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging 115 N Vine Street
- Scottsbluff: Aging Office of Western Nebraska, 1517 Broadway

Please check the location you plan to attend where training can be viewed via live streaming in a group setting.

- ☐ Beatrice ☐ Hastings ☐ Kearney ☐ Omaha ☐ Norfolk ☐ North Platte ☐ Scottsbluff
- ☐ I plan to participate using my computer ☐ I am attending in-person at Nebraska Public Media in Lincoln

Multiple ways to register: Online Registration Form at: www.dhhs.ne.gov/agingtraining OR

Mail, Fax, or Email the Registration Form to:

DHHS, Medicaid & Long-Term Care Division, State Unit on Aging

P.O. Box 95026; Lincoln, NE 68509-5026

dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov

Fax: 402-742-8388

Questions on the program, cancellation, or walk-in registration, call: 402-471-2307 or email: dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov